

contents

- from the Club Captain/
rules
- ladies' section
- vets' section/house
- match committee/
greens
- from the secretary
- catering/social scene/
rules answer
- 100 Club
- Stop Press: Flags result

I'm sure you are all wishing for warmer weather as much as I am up here in a very chilly Lincolnshire where the recent north-east wind has been absolutely bitter and I don't think I have ever played golf in such cold conditions. If you have an anecdote you would like to share, an item of interest, photograph or a suggestion for inclusion in the eBulletin please submit by email at mpgmagwin21@sky.com.

Mike Gould
Editor

FISH AND CHIPS NIGHT

Tuesday 9 April
£7

Fish, Chips & Peas or Breaded Scampi, Chips & Peas
All served with a salad garnish

Book a table with the Kitchen - Food from 7pm



New Catering Franchise

See a following
page for details

Don't forget the

Spring Texas Scramble

Sunday 21 April

See Secretary's page for details





George Clelland
Club Captain

As we come to the end of the coldest March for 50 years, I'm sure many of you are like me and dreaming of the warm and balmy days when we can play in short sleeves and bask in the sunshine on the patio. The last few days of the month have been teasing us with the odd patch of blue sky which looks lovely until you step outside into the biting easterly wind. I tell myself the future is bright, the future is a big orange ball in the sky giving warmth . . . next month maybe . . . let's hope so!

At the beginning of March we played our annual match against the County Under 18 team which ended in a 3-3 draw. It was a pleasure to play with these youngsters, some of whom were actually 15 or 16 years of age. Their maturity, composure and manners both on and off the course were a credit to themselves and their coaches and earned them plaudits from all of the Alresford team.

In representative competitions, congratulations to the Gales Hockley team who managed a very good 5-4 win over a strong Royal Winchester team and who will now face Lee-on-the-Solent away in the next round; commiserations to Stuart Binfield and Kevin Lane who lost on the 18th green to a pair from Petersfield in the Daily Mail Foursomes after a close fought match.

Congratulations are also due to the Ladies team who retained the Winter Triple trophy with another excellent performance at Lee-on-the-Solent. The first Men's friendly match of the season at Alton had to be cancelled because of snow which fell heavily on all areas east of Four Marks. It was very strange to be phoning round the team to let them know the match was off for that reason while looking out onto

the green grass in my garden. Now our season opener will be in a couple weeks when we host Royal Winchester.

There was a good turnout for the Famous Grouse Greensomes with nearly everybody staying in the bar for the announcement of the winners and the presentation of the prizes. On a bright, but cold Good Friday, there's been a big entry for the Linnets Trophy which just shows how eager everyone is to be out playing golf.

The summer knock-out competitions have now started and the winter competitions are coming to an end which means that many people have a lot of matches to play in a relatively short period of time. I'd like to ask all competitors to be pro-active in arranging dates; both parties have a responsibility for making contact and please make sure you give yourselves more than a week before the end date to play the tie.

Upcoming events in April, include a Men's Roll-up on Sunday 7 April ... meet in the Entrance Hall by 9:30am; the Spring Texas Scramble on Sunday 21 April ... the sign-up sheet is on the noticeboard in the Entrance Hall; and an advance reminder that Team Golf starts on Thursday 2 May.

On the social scene, the Club Quiz Night proved to be as popular as ever with Kit Nielson as quizmaster ably assisted by Roger and Fiona Corkhill who managed the scoring. This coming month we have a Meet & Greet night on 19 April when new members can meet the Captains and members of the various committees and find out a bit more about the Club in general. Then on 27 April the Social Committee are presenting a History and Nostalgia evening which will be of interest to everyone in the Club.

a look at rules

supplied by **Celia Batten**

email: celia@celiabatten.vispa.com



Hailstones on the Putting Green

Question: Is it permitted to remove hailstones from the green before putting?

Answer on following page





Despite the wet and cold weather that we have experienced again this month, a good amount of golf has been played by our ladies.

Firstly, I am pleased to report that we managed to retain the Winter Triple Trophy, which we first won last year. The final match was played at Lee-on-the-Solent on 18 March in very wet conditions and I am very grateful to our team who bravely went out and came in with yet another winning score. So thank you to all our players who took part in this competition.



Winter Triple Trophy winning team

We have had three friendly matches during March starting with Hockley at home and then away to both Royal Winchester and Bramshaw. We have managed to win two and half the other one, so a good start to our season.

Our ladies Coffee Morning proved to be a great success with 76 ladies taking part and for most of the players they were able to enjoy a dry game before the rain came in yet again!

Our Mail on Sunday campaign continues and we are through to the 3rd round without having hit a golf ball yet! A bye in the 1st round followed by a walkover from the Alton ladies as they were unfortunately unable to raise a team for the 2nd round match. We are at home for the 3rd round which will be played at the beginning of April against Goring and Streatley.

Our Stoneham Cup campaign begins in April with our first match away against Basingstoke so good luck to Angela, Lynne and their team.



Jane Scott
Ladies' Captain

Elaine Capp and Cathy Hilton will be representing Alresford in the Knight Cup (a County foursomes knockout) and are playing their first round early in April against Southampton – good luck Elaine and Cathy.

We are also playing our 1st round of the North Hants Trophy in April and have a home draw against Osborne. So as you can see, plenty of golf for the ladies in April!

The entry sheets for both our Spring Meeting (30 April) and Ladies Invitation (19 May) are now on the noticeboard and it would be great to have a good response to both – so please do come and join in.

Just a reminder - if you wish to enter the Hampshire Ladies County Golf Association's Championship week which is taking place at Royal Winchester during 3-7 June that the closing date for entries is at the end of April. There are many divisions – so please do enter. Entry forms can be found on the County noticeboard in the changing room or from the County's website.

What's on for the ladies in April?

- Ladies Age Concern Stableford – Tuesday 9 and Saturday 13
- Ladies Medal – Tuesday 16 and Saturday 20
- Ladies and Vets Breeze Up – Thursday 18
- Spring Texas Scramble – Sunday 21
- Courage and Barclay 4BBB – Saturday 27 April – open to both ladies and men
- Ladies Spring Meeting – Tuesday 30 April





Peter Dowse
Vets' Captain

So we are still stuck in the grip of this wintery weather. I've just come back from a week in West Yorkshire where the snow storms did severe damage. A great deal of the time there was spent digging out cars, pathways, and livestock. It was very distressing to find newborn lambs that didn't have a chance in the conditions.

Now it's back to "balmy" Hampshire, and get that rusty golf swing going. The Vets season began with a match between the teams of the Captain versus the Vice-Captain. A hard fought battle ensued that resulted in a decisive win for the Captain's team. The day was rounded off with a very nice lunch enjoyed by all. Our next event is the Vets and Ladies "Breeze-up" a two-tee start on the 18 April. The start sheet will be on the noticeboard shortly. Have you paid the entry fee? No. You may be disappointed. The option of paying for the event afterwards has ceased. Warnings of this change have gone out for over a year now. Please be aware that from now on the only Vets golf that is paid for after taking place is Interclub Matches.

Our Summer League matches have commenced on a positive note with a home draw against Rowlands Castle, and a notable win versus Corhampton. Our next run of matches through April include an away visit to Hockley, home to Waterlooville, away to Tylney Park and Romsey, then home to Stoneham, that's a tough one. All this before the "Breeze-up".

The Vets noticeboard is the centre of our organisation. It contains the "Request for Players" sheets for forthcoming matches, these are up at least six weeks in advance of team selection. Get your name on here if you fancy some competitive play. The teams selected sheets go up three weeks before a match. Please tick your names off, including reserves. The Knockout competitions have been drawn and sheets are up on the board now. Make a note of the "to be played by dates", you don't want to be eliminated by default.

Captains' Charity Day on Sunday 9 June, is your chance to do some good. The Air Ambulance is in desperate need of funds. I live under the inbound flightpath that the helicopters take into Southampton General Hospital, so every day, I see first hand, just how much this charity service is needed to save the lives of people on the brink of oblivion. One day it may be one of us. No green fee payable on this Sunday to five-day vets, so let's show what we can do. The Vets, as a group, play the most golf throughout the week, we spend the most at bar and catering, so put it in your diaries to help the Vets be the biggest number of competitors on that day. More information on the Charity Day nearer the time.

The clocks go forward, Spring is on the way (so I'm told), let's get out there and enjoy.

Be well, and swing true.

House committee



Patio Tables and Chairs

We will be replacing the green plastic table and chairs on the patio in the next few weeks. If you are interested in adorning your own patio with these attractive green retro items once they have been replaced, please notify either myself or the Secretary of your interest.

John Dillon

Chair: House Committee
(john.dillon@talktalk.net) 01420 543660





The weather in March has not been good for golf with plenty of rain and freezing conditions. This has resulted in several temporary greens and trolley and buggy bans.

The March stableford competition attracted 80 entrants which was very encouraging but the over 60's stableford which should have taken place on the 11th had to be cancelled due to the inclement weather conditions.

The Famous Grouse greensomes competition took place on a very wet Sunday when 68 competitors braved the conditions and managed to complete

their rounds before the greens became too flooded. Despite the conditions nine teams managed to achieve a 2 on the par 3's and were rewarded with some golf balls.

The Mackershaw Trophy, the first board competition of the year, was played on the 24 March and was open to both ladies and men and the result is shown below.

The draws for the summer knockouts have been completed and the resulting lists posted on the noticeboards.

David Robertson

Match Secretary

competition results

March Stableford 9 March

1 Charlie House	41 pts
2 Karl Evans	40 pts
3 Chris Geary	39 pts

Famous Grouse Greensomes 17 March

1 Richard Lane & Neil Gandy	net 64.5
2 Kit Neilson & Brian Wright	net 66 ocb
3 Bob Moore & Lee Cheong	net 66
4 Billy Biggs & Keith Halls	net 66.5

Mackershaw Trophy 24 March

1 Grant Thorne	35 pts
2 Kit Neilson	34 pts ocb
3 Harry Dhand	34 pts ocb
4 Brian Overton	34 pts

Linnets Trophy

1 Percy Sims	71+61 = 132
2 Steven Drake	72+66 = 138
3 Torquil Jack	70+69 = 139
4 Gill Freemantle	78+63 = 141

news from the greens



The sheep have had their last move now and will be going back home shortly. Amazingly five of them are in lamb! We all thought they were far too old for that!

The greenside bunker on the 10th has been enlarged, re-profiled and a large sump drain installed at the bottom. This certainly seems to be working well as it is not currently getting flooded as it was before.

You may have noticed that in the last few days the large tree on the right side of the 18th fairway of which only the trunk and a few main branches were left has been felled. It was rotten all the way through and so could have fallen down at any time.

Steve, Adam and I went to a seminar at Hockley Golf Club which was on management of the rough. We were shown that if the rough was scarifying to get rid of the wide leaved grasses this would encourage the growth of wild flowers and the wispiest grasses which would enable us to find our balls more easily and also mean that as well as being somewhat difficult to play out of, it would be easier with wispy grasses. Since then Steve has lowered the brushes on the leaf

collector to scarify some of our rough. This is especially noticeable on the 2nd and the 6th holes. During the Famous Grouse competition it poured with rain which meant that the already wet course became very waterlogged, to the extent that possibly the competition should have been stopped. A number of pinch points got badly churned up. We would be grateful if members would try to avoid the worn areas on the course even if it means taking a slightly longer way round. The extended cold weather has also meant that the grass has not been growing very much; although it looks as if it may now be starting to do so. This, combined with the wet weather, the putting greens are very soggy so it is particularly important to repair your pitch marks. There is an excellent video on the correct way to do this on the USGA website (usga.org). I have noticed that many otherwise very knowledgeable golfers do not repair them correctly.

Peter Spreadbury

Chairman of Greens





New Members

Welcome to the following new members who have all joined the club starting in March and April: Mrs Heather Burke (Country), Jack and Tom Daniel (Juniors), Andrew Lowther and Andrew McKenzie (7-day).

We hope that your time at the club will be a long and enjoyable one.

May I remind all members that we are welcoming new membership enquiries for all categories. If you know any friends or acquaintances who are thinking of joining a club or changing clubs, please do your best to sell them the benefits of Alresford.

Membership packs are available from the office which details the benefits and prices (including new payment options). We would be delighted to show any prospective members around the club and arrange a round of golf for them.

HELP PLEASE - Further to my recent email regarding new property developments – thank you to those who responded. To reiterate and as I do not reside in the surrounding areas, if there are any **new property developments** happening near to your own locations – please let me know with the name of the development and builder/agent. I have some new promotional material which has been designed to go to show homes and to people new to the area with a view to encouraging new member applications.

New Telephone Numbers

Despite having had the new telephone system for nearly 4 months, members are still trying to ring the club using the old telephone numbers. With the exception of the Pro-Shop the old direct dial numbers DO NOT work and you will get no reply.

To avoid any doubt or confusion please ring the main club number (01962 733746) and use the options to be directed to the bar, kitchen and course information line

Members' Guest Green Fess Special Offer

Due to the continued success of this scheme, we will offer the GUEST GREEN FEE DISCOUNT OFFER again in 2013. Over the course of the season bring either 6 guests for £105 or 10 guests for £175. These will be available ONLY from the Secretary in advance (not the pro shop). Please be aware that all "visits" must be used by 31 December 2013. No refund or extension will be given on unused "visits". Normal restrictions apply.

Club Roll Up

Fancy a game in the week? All members are welcome to come along to the "club roll-up" on Wednesday mornings. The usual start time is 11am during the summer and 10.30am during the winter months all timings subject to any advanced tee reservations. Please check the main noticeboard and website for any changes.

APRIL

Wednesday 3 - 11.00am
(change of time to BST)

Wednesday 10 - 11.00am

Wednesday 17 - 11.00am

Wednesday 24 - 11.00am

MAY

Wednesday 1 - 10.45am

(society booking - check noticeboard for updates)

Wednesday 8 - 10.45am

(society booking - check noticeboard for updates)

St. George's Day Dinner

SATURDAY 20 APRIL

Traditional English fayre – suitable for John Bull.
£18.50 per head

Details on the Social Noticeboard.

Spring Texas Scramble

SUNDAY 21 APRIL

Signing Up sheets for this popular "season opener" are available in the foyer. There will be two shotgun start competitions – a morning (8.30am) and afternoon (1.30pm) start. Teams will be drawn, so it is a great opportunity to meet new people and have a fun game.

Seniors Open - JUNE 14

Entries are welcome from Alresford members to enter this successful annual event. Each year our Vets are allocated to single entries to help "show them around" the course and make them feel welcome on the day. We receive many positive comments because of this. Alresford members entry fee is reduced by £10 to ONLY £21. Entry sheets available from the Office. Separate prizes for Alresford members and visitors.

David Maskery
Club Secretary



Catering Franchise - New Caterers

Following the recent advertisement, selection and intensive interview process, we are pleased to inform members that

Dean Burns and Merryl Allwright (M&D Catering)

have been offered the position of Franchise Caterers at Alresford Golf Club. They have verbally accepted this position and we await written confirmation of this along with their proposed start dates. We are excited about the prospect of working with them to further develop the reputation of Alresford Golf Club and continue the provision of excellent catering services for both members and visitors.

Background

Dean and Merryl both received the National Higher Certificate in Commercial Catering from the Johannesburg Hotel School in 1986.

After employment in various hotels and restaurants they took on their first catering franchise at the Algoa Bay Yacht Club in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, from 1990-1996. They then moved to Walmer Park Golf and Country Club and then to the prestigious Port Elizabeth Golf Club where the catering franchise was held from 1997 to 2003 which was when they decided to move to England.

On arrival in England they had various agency jobs before securing employment at Richings Park Golf Club in Buckinghamshire where they stayed running the catering and bar until 2006 when they left to take up the franchise position at Burnham Beeches Golf Club, Buckinghamshire. This franchise was held until October 2012 when they left to go to Old Fold Manor GC, Barnet.

At present we are awaiting a confirmed start date.

social scene



History and Nostalgia Night

The history and nostalgia night will take place on Saturday 27 April. Highlights include informal presentations by David Harrison, Brian Young and Malcolm Scott covering various stages of Alresford Golf Club. There will be displays including golf club accounts, rules, maps, equipment, photographs and letters.

We are extremely fortunate to have members with such in-depth knowledge in the development of the golf course and club. I believe the evening will be extremely interesting and entertaining.

There will also be a putting competition using hickory shafted putters. Food will be available and should be ordered in advance but is payable on the evening. We would also be most grateful if those wishing to attend would put their names on the board in the clubhouse, but please note admission is free.

The putting competition will start at 6:30 with the main event commencing at approximately 7:30.

I look forward to reporting on this night in next month's edition.

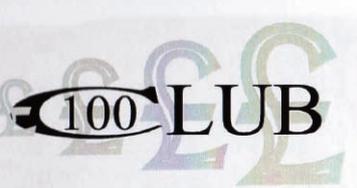
James Stewart
Chair, Social Committee

rule answer



Answer: Yes, hailstones (which are small drops of natural ice) may be treated as either casual water or loose impediments (Definition of Loose Impediments). As hail will normally be covering the whole of a putting surface and not isolated areas, it is most likely that a player will treat them as loose impediments by clearing a path from their ball to the hole, by removing the hail. Loose impediments may be removed by any means, for example the player may use the back of a rake to clear the hailstones, but must be careful not to press down on their line of putt in breach of Rule 16-1a(i).





The winners of the 100 Club prize draw in March were:

£100 - Barbara Woolnough	£32 - John Harmes
£50 - Claire Gould	£32 - Wynne Tufnel
£32 - Nina Edwards	£32 - Ray Fisher

Congratulations to the winners. The 100 Club will be funding the replacement of the plastic patio furniture with new wooden furniture. All we need is the weather to be able to make use of it.

Not a member of the 100 Club?

If you're not a member of the 100 Club, you can become one for as little as £1 per month. Shares in the 100 Club are purchased for £1 per month and there is no limit on the number of shares which can be held. In general, most members have between 1 and 5 shares and pay by monthly direct debit, though it's also possible to pay quarterly or annually. Each share is allocated a number which is entered in the monthly draw. The top prize is £100, with a second prize of £50 and four other prizes of £32. For more information contact George Clelland on 01962735008 or george.clelland@btinternet.com or call in to the Secretary's office.

George Clelland



EASTER BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY

Greensomes Flag Competition

Congratulations to the winners

Results

First
Glen Ralph and Jo White on the 2nd 20 feet from the pin

Second
Bill Biggs and Michelle Ralph on the 18th – in the hole!

Third
George Clelland and Annie Beal on the 18th 2 feet from the flag

Fourth
Terry Evans and Kate Mills on the 18th 12 yards from the hole



Getting in touch: Alesford Golf Club

Cheriton Road, Tichborne Down, Alesford, Hampshire SO24 0PN
email: secretary@alesfordgolf.co.uk www.alesfordgolf.co.uk

DISCLAIMER

The Editorial Team takes no responsibility for incorrect information received from Contributors.

Secretary: David Maskery Tel: 01962 733746

Professional: Malcolm Scott Tel: 01962 733998

eBulletin editor: Mike Gould email: mpgmagwin21@sky.com